

TORRANCE ENTERPRISE

TORRANCE THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL CITY

VOL. 1.

Friday, December 10, 1920 TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

No. 6

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ELECT THEIR OLD OFFICERS

The regular meeting of the Torrance chamber of commerce was held Monday night in Assembly hall in the Steffen building, their new quarters.

G. A. Proctor acted as chairman during the evening and A. Gourdir was temporary secretary in the absence of Mr. Andem and A. H. Bartlett, respectively. Communications of interest were read and resolutions pertaining to speed laws were adopted by the meeting, same to be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and other officials who are interested in enforcing traffic laws for the safety of the public.

It was voted by the meeting that the chamber of commerce meet two nights every month, the first and third Monday evenings, the first to be a business meeting and the second a social gathering. This method was decided upon so that interest may be created in civic work for Torrance and it was the opinion of those present that no greater benefit could be derived than to have social gatherings where those interested in the welfare of the Industrial City might mingle and become better acquainted by exchanging views for the betterment of their home city.

The acting president for the evening called the attention of the meeting to the great loss of life and property which has and is being perpetrated at railway crossings. He cited several instances of recent occurrence, and made the suggestion that were a deep ditch of a sloping character be cut through on each side of railroad tracks and paved, it would compel motorists to slow down or wreck their machine just before driving over railroad tracks. This method is followed out in the streets of Ontario and it is impossible for one to drive over twenty miles an hour in that city, yet autoists experience no undue roughness if they drive slowly. The suggestion was followed up by a recommendation that some sort of an arrangement be made near the turns in the road at the Torrance High School, by Prof. Barnette. He pointed out the danger school children experience at his school by having automobiles tear around this circle and on account of their speed were thrown from the wrong side of the street. It was also pointed out by him that something ought to be done regarding having motorists turn to the right when going towards Redondo instead of circling to the left and passing in front of the school.

Prof. Barnette also addressed the meeting regarding the condition of the schools, and cited instances of overcrowding and half-day sessions. He has appeared before the school board on several occasions recently regarding the new school buildings and reported that Torrance was first on the list for new additions. The drawings for additions for all new school buildings are being worked out and those of the local school are being cared for ahead of all others. Mr. Barnette knows at this time just what to expect in the elementary additions but so far the High School recommendations have not been passed upon, finally.

J. Isenstein stated that four signs had been placed at the different approaches into Torrance and that lettering was being done, which would direct the traveling public into Torrance. Following committee reports the meeting balloted upon the different candidates who will be the chamber of commerce officers for 1921, as follows:

E. X. Andem—President;
P. G. Briney—vice-president;
A. H. Bartlett—secretary;
Alfred Gourdir—corresponding secretary.

A good coal wood range for sale. Regular price \$92.50—take it away for \$60. Must be sold to make room. "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.—Adv.

MASONIC ELECTION

At one of the largest attended meetings of the year, Torrance Lodge No. 447 F. & A. M met in their hall in Lomita, last Friday night and dispensed with regular business which came up for a regular Stated meeting night, after which Worshipful Master Dinger called for election of officers for the Masonic year of 1921, and the following were elected by secret ballot and will have charge of the lodge after installation in January next:

Richard Jenkins, Worshipful Master; P. J. Beall, Senior Warden; J. H. Sprout, Junior Warden; Joe Stone, Treasurer; C. H. Mueller, Secretary.

The following officers are appointive and made by Worshipful Master-Elect Jenkins, as follows:

C. W. Northrup, chaplain; O. W. Thistle, junior deacon; J. G. Wilson, senior deacon; C. A. Paxman, marshal; J. H. Fess, senior steward; J. R. Guyan, junior steward; W. H. Stanger, tyler.

TRUSTEES

C. A. Paxman—3 years.
R. R. Smith—2 years.
W. A. Renn—1 year.

BURLESQUE ON BOULEVARD

Patrons of vaudeville or comedy films, would have enjoyed a comic scene which happened last Tuesday morning on the Main street boulevard when what might have resulted in a serious accident, was suddenly changed to one of laughter. M. L. May, special salesman of the Dominguez Land Corporation, was driving to Torrance and met a Ford car driven by a Japanese. The latter's car skidded and turned completely around and was hooked by Mr. May's rear guard rail and before he could get his car under control was pulling the Jap down the boulevard. The Jap boy jumped out and exclaimed: "No go San Pedro, I go Los Angeles." The situation was really a serious one, but Mr. May refused to see it after this outburst, and is still smiling over the incident.

MORE SIGNS

The placing of signs has become contagious in Torrance. H. H. C. Hammerton purchased several large sign boards and these were erected at the different approaches into Torrance. The chamber of commerce next placed four sign in conspicuous places. The Dominguez Land Corporation have erected a number of sign boards, to let the people know where their offices are and that they are alive to the fact that Torrance only needs to be advertised in order to attract the homeseeker and investor. Next the Chamber of commerce will have a sign painted for their organization as well as their secretary. Much good and quick results are sure to be the outcome of labeling your city for the benefit of those who do not know.

WILL WRITE SCHOOL BOARD

A committee representing the chamber of commerce of Torrance was appointed to compose a strong letter to the Los Angeles School Board and call their attention to the marvelous growth of this city and to the great increase in school attendance, as well as the overcrowded condition now existing. The object of the letter is to stimulate activity in getting additions built for the Torrance schools.

DIES SUDDENLY

M. Duval of Los Angeles, aged 81 years and father of Mrs. A. Ruth of North Arlington avenue, came to Torrance last week for a short visit and soon after his arrival was stricken with apoplexy and passed away after an illness of two days. The funeral services were held in Gardena Monday.

LEASES HOME

H. H. C. Hammerton has leased a cottage in Portola avenue and will reside there until his new residence is completed on the Hammerton tract.

TORRANCE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION TO RECEIVE \$700 PER MONTH FROM J. S. TORRANCE FOR NINETY YEARS

HOSPITAL TO BE OPEN FOR ALL PHYSICIANS,
BUT TO BE OPERATED ON A NON-PROFIT
BSAIS. SPECIALLY PROVIDES THAT
THE POOR SHALL BE CARED
FOR—FREE IF NECESSARY

November 26th, 1920

Torrance Hospital Association.
Dr. J. S. Lancaster, Pres.,
Torrance, California.

My dear Doctor:

I beg herewith to enclose for your information and for your files a copy of Declaration of Trust executed by Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank, in which you are a beneficiary, and which, following my decease, will furnish revenue to you of approximately \$700.00 per month over a period of upwards of 90 years.

It was my intention, as soon as the first unit of the Hospital can be created, to cancel my life estate and make the income then forthwith available.

Yours very truly,

J. S. TORRANCE.

DECLARATION OF TRUST

The Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank, a corporation, of Los Angeles, California, hereinafter called the "Trustee," hereby certifies and declares that it has received from J. S. Torrance, of Los Angeles, California, hereinafter called the "Trustor," two thousand six hundred ninety-five (2,695) shares of the capital stock of the Standard Fireproof Building Company of the par value of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per share, and give (5) shares of said capital stock, each of which stands in the name of a director of said company and is endorsed in blank by such director; that said bank paid no consideration for the said stock or any part thereof, but the same was assigned, transferred and delivered to it by the said Trustor to be held in trust for the following uses and purposes and upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Said Trustee shall possess manage, control, sell, convey, assign, transfer, invest and re-invest the said trust property or any part or parcel thereof, or any substitute thereof, as to it may seem best, except that during the life and competency of the said Trustor, said Trustee shall not sell or otherwise dispose of said stock or any part thereof without the written consent of said Trustor. Said Trustee shall have the right to vote said stock at all meetings of stockholders, to grant proxies for the voting of the same, to consent to the increase or diminution of the stock of said corporation, to consent to the change of the name thereof, and generally to have and exercise all of the rights and powers of a stockholder of said corporation. In the event of the sale of said stock or any part thereof, said Trustee shall invest the proceeds of such sale in securities which are legal investments for savings banks in California.

2. Said Trustee shall collect and receive all rents, dividends, interest and income from said trust property and therefrom shall pay all taxes, assessments, insurance, costs of repair and upkeep of the property and the other expenses of the administration of the trust estate, together with the reasonable compensation to said Trustee.

3. Said Trustee shall pay the net income from said trust property in convenient monthly or quarterly installments unto the Trustor, J. S. Torrance, for and during the term of his natural life.

4. From and after the date of the Trustor, the said Trustee shall pay all of said net income unto The Torrance Hospital Association, a corporation, provided, that said corporation shall continue to have a Board of Trustees consisting of nine (9) members; two (2) of whom shall be physicians authorized to practice medicine in the State of California by a duly authorized State Board of Medical examiners; seven (7) of whom shall not be physicians, but three (3) of whom shall be women and four (4) of whom shall be men. The said

Trustee may from time to time consent to a change in the number of the Board of Trustees of said corporation, but at no time shall more than two-ninths (2-9) of the Board consist of physicians, and at all times the lay members of the Board shall be divided equally or nearly equally between women and men and provided, further, that the name of the municipality of Torrance shall not be changed, and that as far as practicable the said hospital shall be free to poor people. The said income is to be used by the said Hospital Association for the sole and only purpose of paying all or part of the operating expenses of the hospital to be hereafter established by it at Torrance, California. In the event that the name of said town is changed from "Torrance" to any other name or in the event the Board of Trustees of said corporation is not constituted as above provided, or in event the said hospital is not made free as far as practicable for poor people, then, but not otherwise, the said net income shall be paid unto the said "The Torrance Hospital Association, a corporation, of Los Angeles, California, to be used by it in the discretion of its Board of Directors. The payment of said net income to the Barlow Sanitarium Association shall commence at the time when said Trustee ascertains that the Torrance Hospital Association has violated the conditions above set out.

5. That the said Trustor shall have the right, from time to time hereafter, at his election, to pay or deliver to said Trustee other and additional property or money which shall become a part of the principal of the trust estate herein created, to the same effect and intent as if such money or property was a part of the original trust estate herebefore created.

6. There are at this time three hundred (300) shares of the capital stock of the Standard Fireproof Building Company, standing in the name of Jeff Chandler, and by him pledged to the Security Trust and Savings Bank. It is understood that when the debt for which said stock is pledged is paid, that said stock shall be delivered to the said Trustee, to constitute a part of the corpus of said trust estate, to the same intent and effect as though it had been delivered to said Trustee at the time of the formation of said trust.

7. The said Trustee shall not be liable or responsible for all taxes, stockholders' liability or other matter or thing connected with the trust property, but all liabilities, claims and demands with respect thereto shall be paid out of the income or corpus of said trust property, and the said Trustee shall have the right to pay any taxes, claims or demands if it elects to do so, and upon making such payment it shall have the right to re-imburse itself out of the income or principal of said trust property, and it shall have a lien upon all of said trust property to secure any advance or outlay made by it, as well as for its fees and compensation.

In witness whereof, the Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank has caused these presents to be executed by its Vice-President and Secretary, thereunto duly authorized, and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, this — day of November, 1920.

LOS ANGELES TRUST AND SAVINGS BANK.

By, W. R. Hercey,
Its Vice-President.
And, T. H. Grigsby,
Its Secretary.

I, J. S. Torrance, the Trustor named in the foregoing Declaration of Trust, hereby consent that the same fully, fairly and correctly set forth the trusts and covenants upon which the property therein described is held by said Trustee, and I hereby ratify, approve and confirm said Declaration of Trust in all of its terms and conditions.

J. S. TORRANCE.
Trustor.

CANCELING MACHINE IN P. O.

Postmaster Gourdir is the proud owner of a fast cancelling machine which he received this week. It will be used in stamping the massive stack of letters that pass through this postoffice every day, and which will save many hours of laborious work of stamping each one by hand. The new machine has a canceling capacity of 300 letters a minute, and that is going some, compared with previous methods. The local postmaster stands the expense of rental for this equipment and completed arrangements with the Columbia Cancelling Machine Company, manufacturers, to keep the machine here.

Additions of this kind in postoffices is one of the best recommendations as to its growth and will mean a better and more efficient service, and Mr. Gourdir is to be complimented for his willingness to stand the expense out of his own pocket in order to better serve Torrance.

PACIFIC ELECTRIC BUY HOMES

The Pacific Electric Railway Co is buying many homes in Torrance for their employees, thus saving time and much lost energy for those who are employed in the shops. As it is employees who live in Los Angeles and work in the shops here spend two hours every day on the cars, and this time put in on improvements around their own homes in Torrance would be turned into money in the way of improving their homes, besides the garden patch will net enormous returns were these two hours a day devoted to that particular line of work. W. H. Gilbert stated that the object of the P. E. was to build at least fifty new houses early next year rather than to buy homes already constructed and in this way Torrance can keep what families she has and at the same time add many new ones.

PUBLIC PLAYGROUND

At the last meeting of the chamber of commerce, the Executive committee was instructed to confer with J. S. Torrance relative to securing a site for a public playground. Providing something of a recreational nature for children as well as those older would be a great asset to the youth of Torrance, and keeping children from playing in the streets will eliminate the danger which many are subjected. The committee will bring in their report at the next regular meeting.

ORDER NEW SIGN

The chamber of commerce of Torrance is eager to be progressive like all other thriving centers and at their last meeting voted to buy a large sign to be placed in front of their hall, which will read, "Chamber of Commerce." This will inform those passing through that Torrance has a chamber of commerce and can get desired information concerning the local field. A. H. Bartlett secretary will also have a sign painted which will bear his name and official capacity, and hang same in front of his office.

FLAG POLE

Torrance is to have a flag pole which will be dedicated with due ceremony at the proper time. W. T. Klussman, who has had charge of financing the project, reports that everything has been completed except an additional coat of paint and the actual setting of the pole. These details have already been arranged for and it is only a matter of time until those who will complete the job can get to the work. Further announcements later.

TORRANCE P. O. GAINS

Making remarkable stride in the increase of business, the Torrance Post Office receipts show a gain of over 31 per cent over the same period for 1919. Tabulations are kept for the four quarters of each year as follows:

Total for four periods of 1919 were \$4,742.28; and for the same period of 1920, \$6,203.80, or a gain of 31 per cent plus.

PHENOMINAL GROWTH OF TORRANCE SCHOOLS

Analysis of the progress of the Torrance schools in the past five or six years fail to show whether most credit is due to school executives, instructing faculties, ambitious children, or conscientious parents, or a generally well-balanced community where enterprise, patriotism and energy are the watchwords. Like a flower planted in fertile soil, the schools of Torrance have grown, blossomed and matured until now they are rated in the front ranks of the smaller communities of the Los Angeles school system, and have helped to give Torrance her good name wherever mentioned as a residential city.

Like the camera, figures never lie, and although they are tiresome in arriving at the balance, they are always gratifying in determining results. In figures, the story of Torrance's schools may be summed up with the startling statement that since September 1, 1919, to June 21, 1920, the increase was over 50 per cent in that period. If last year witnessed an increase of fifty per cent, the year 1920-1921 will, at the present rate of progress, more than double that increase.

Prof. Barnette of the Torrance schools has not been asleep and has by consistent effort received improvements for the school building, which will practically double the capacity. Every school district coming under the supervision of the Los Angeles school board has deluged that body with requests for appropriations for their particular school, but the insistent demand on the part of the Torrance official has resulted in the gratifying information that Torrance is first on the list for improvements. This is due to the fact that the rapid growth of Torrance far surpasses that of any other school, the crowded condition and the annoying and unsatisfactory method of holding half-day sessions to accommodate the overflow of classes has all worked to the end of obtaining relief, first of all.

Ten more class rooms have been promised for the Elementary departments, and Mr. Barnette is asking for four more in order to care for the attendance that is sure to come within so short a time. This number of rooms will require \$96,000, and is entirely separate from the allotment made for the high school. An additional appropriation of \$30,000 is being asked, but this has not been passed upon by the school board.

Torrance and Lomita are running neck and neck in attendance but the enrollment at the Torrance school is in the lead by a dozen or more at present. One of the interesting features reported by Prof. Barnette was the fact that after Torrance and Lomita had outgrown their present accommodations—after additions are made—would be a Twin-City High School built to accommodate both towns, and erected on a site that would be commodious to both. It was pointed out that a high school building for each would not be considered by the school board.—The Torrance school and the Lomita school are just two and two-tenths miles distant, and the location of a high school building would not be a difficult matter to decide upon.

The Los Angeles school enrollment was increased 10,000 during the month of October, 1920, alone, equal to the entire increase for last year. The total enrollment made by the last report gave Torrance a total of 379, and new scholars are being taken in every week. Some, however, cannot be cared for until after the first of the year.

The growth of Torrance in her residential districts, the Pacific Electric buying houses and preparing to build many more for their employees will cause greater congestion, and the more additions that can be obtained from the \$9,500,000 bonds the better off the local school system will be to cope with such a vast increase.